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## Demographic & Economic Information for Meagher County



**RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU**

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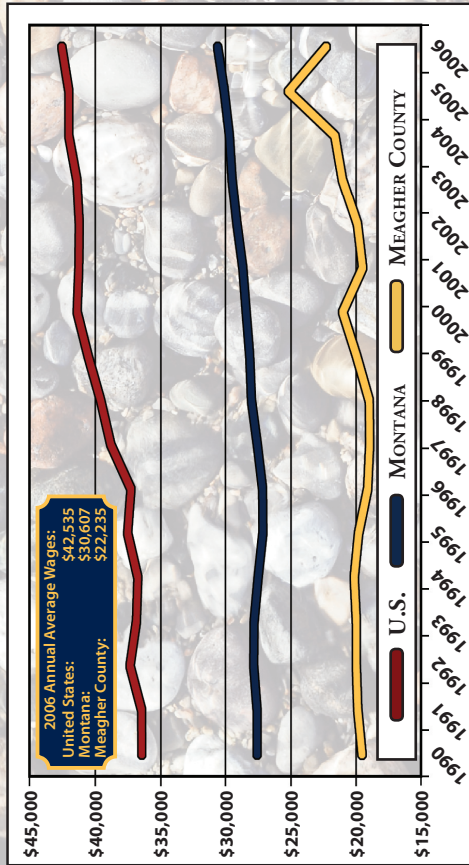
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### Annual Average Labor Force - Meagher County

Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2006	882	845	37	4.2%
2005	935	895	40	4.3%
2004	923	873	50	5.4%
2003	908	859	49	5.4%
2002	884	834	50	5.7%
2001	955	901	54	5.7%
2000	993	935	58	5.8%

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS)

### Annual Average Wages, 1990 to 2006 (In 2006 Dollars)



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

### Per Capita Personal Income, 1990 to 2005 (In 2006 Dollars)



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Regional Economic Information System

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## MEAGHER COUNTY

Meagher County is Montana's forty-fourth most populous county, with an estimated 1,968 residents as of July 1st, 2006. White Sulphur Springs, the county seat, is the state's fifty-sixth largest city, with a population estimated at 1,002 in 2006.<sup>1</sup> Other towns in Meagher County include Martinsdale and Ringling.

White Sulphur Springs was named for the white deposits around the natural hot springs that have drawn people to the area since time immemorial. Crow Chief Plenty Coups recalled pilgrimages by warriors to the medicinal mud baths. In 1886, James Brewer "discovered" the area, and developed the hot springs into a stage stop and resort. Today, visitors still soak in these natural mineral pools at Spa Hot Springs.<sup>2</sup> In addition to the hot springs, visitors seek out the area for its abundant fishing, camping, hiking, and hunting opportunities.

In town, tourists can visit the Castle (featured on the front cover), a prominent Victorian Era landmark and home of the Meagher County Museum, which features period furniture, mineral samples, clothing and artifacts from the region's past.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Census Bureau, *Population Estimates Program*

<sup>2</sup>[www.visitmt.com/categories/city.asp?siteid=1&city=white+sulphur+springs](http://www.visitmt.com/categories/city.asp?siteid=1&city=white+sulphur+springs)

## Resources for Meagher County

### Chamber of Commerce

Meagher County Chamber of Commerce  
P. O. Box 356  
White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645  
(406) 265-4383  
E-mail: [info@meagherchamber.com](mailto:info@meagherchamber.com)  
[www.meagherchamber.com](http://www.meagherchamber.com)

### Job Service Workforce Center

Helena Job Service Workforce Center  
715 Front St., P. O. Box 201505  
Helena, MT 59620-1505  
Ph: (406) 447-3200  
Fax: (406) 447-3224  
E-mail: [HelenaJSC@mt.gov](mailto:HelenaJSC@mt.gov)  
<http://isd.dli.mt.gov/local/helena>

### Economic Development

Meagher County  
Economic Growth Council  
P. O. Box 508  
White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645  
Ph: (406) 547-2289, Fax: (406) 547-3824

Montana Business Assistance Connection  
225 Cruise Avenue, Helena, MT 59601  
Ph: (406) 447-1510, Fax: (406) 447-1514  
E-mail: [info@gatewaycdc.org](mailto:info@gatewaycdc.org)  
[www.gatewaycdc.org](http://www.gatewaycdc.org)

### Newspaper

Meagher County News  
13 East Main  
White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645  
Phone: (406) 547-3831

## Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2006 (continued)

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
Couriers and messengers	1	*	*
INFORMATION	2	*	*
Publishing industries, except Internet	1	*	*
ISPs, search portals, & data processing	1	*	*
FINANCE AND INSURANCE	2	*	*
Credit intermediation & related activity	1	*	*
Insurance carriers & related activities	1	*	*
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES	2	*	*
ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES	1	*	*
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	3	*	*
Hospitals	1	*	*
Social assistance	2	*	*
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION	6	51	\$17,006
Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks	1	*	*
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	5	*	*
ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES	16	81	\$7,347
Accommodation	4	28	\$8,195
Food services and drinking places	12	52	\$6,892
OTHER SERVICES	5	14	\$16,179
Repair and maintenance	1	*	*
Personal and laundry services	1	*	*
Membership associations & organizations	3	*	*
Private households	1	*	*
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	17	162	\$26,076
Local Government	6	112	\$20,606
State Government	5	18	\$31,515
Federal Government	6	32	\$42,418

The QCIEW program compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.)

## Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2006

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	103	618	\$22,253
TOTAL PRIVATE	86	455	\$20,891
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	18	89	\$23,939
Animal production	14	79	\$23,844
Forestry and logging	4	*	*
Agriculture & forestry support	1	*	*
MINING	1	*	*
UTILITIES	1	*	*
CONSTRUCTION	13	32	\$24,706
Construction of buildings	4	*	*
Heavy and civil engineering construction	1	*	*
Specialty trade contractors	8	19	\$23,881
MANUFACTURING	2	*	*
Food manufacturing	1	*	*
Textile product mills	1	*	*
WHOLESALE TRADE	1	*	*
RETAIL TRADE	11	56	\$14,673
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	2	*	*
Building material & garden supply stores	1	*	*
Food and beverage stores	2	*	*
Gasoline stations	2	*	*
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	2	*	*
General merchandise stores	1	*	*
Miscellaneous store retailers	1	*	*
TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING	2	*	*
Truck transportation	1	*	*

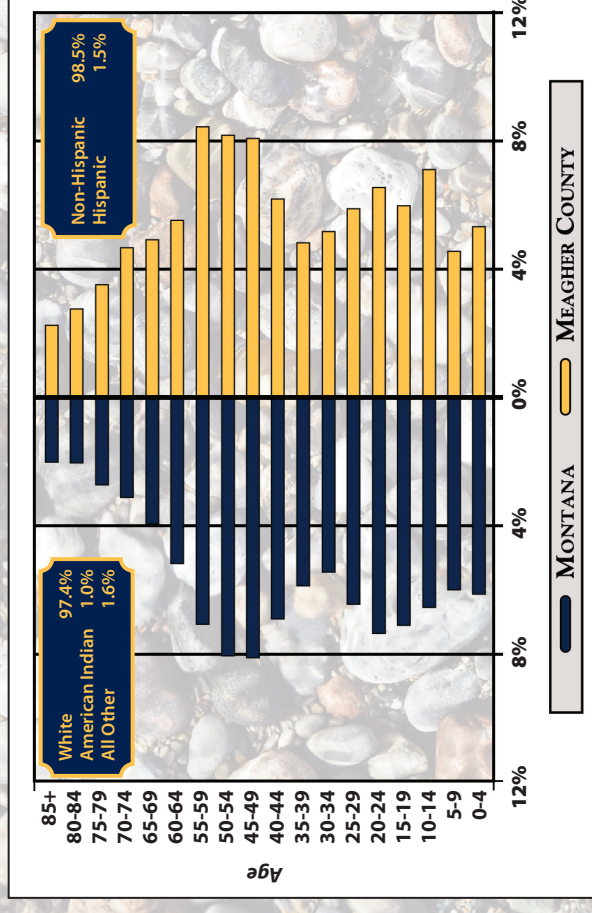
Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)  
\* Data Not Disclosable

## Population for Meagher County & Related Areas

Geography	% Change 2000-2006	Population Estimates								Census
		July 1, 2006	July 1, 2005	July 1, 2004	July 1, 2003	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2001	July 1, 2000		
Meagher County	1.9%	1,968	1,961	2,004	1,969	1,936	1,953	1,932	April 1, 2000	
White Sulphur Springs city	1.8%	1,002	998	1,020	1,003	986	995	984	984	
Balance of Meagher County	1.9%	966	963	984	966	950	958	948	948	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

## Distribution of Population by Age Montana and Meagher County, 2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 Population Estimates

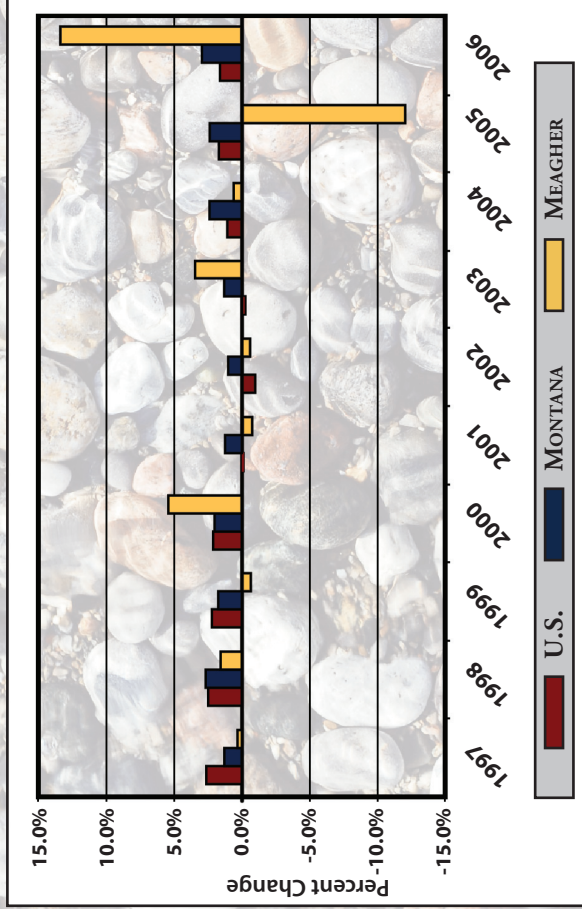
## Highest Level of Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and older)

Educational Attainment	Meagher County	Montana	U.S.
Less than High School Diploma	16.6%	12.8%	19.6%
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	37.2%	31.3%	28.6%
Some College	22.8%	25.6%	21.0%
Associate Degree	4.6%	5.9%	6.3%
Bachelor's Degree	15.3%	17.2%	15.5%
Master's Degree	1.9%	4.6%	5.9%
Professional Degree	1.0%	1.7%	2.0%
Doctoral Degree	0.5%	0.9%	1.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000



## Percent Change in Employment: 1997 to 2006 U.S., Montana, and Meagher County



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

## Top 10 Private Employers in Meagher County (Based on 2nd Quarter 2007 Data - Listed in Alphabetical Order)

Business Name	Size Class	Business Name	Size Class
All Seasons Inn & Suites	3	Mountainview Medical Center	5
Bank of the Rockies	3	Showdown Montana	3
Castle Mountain Ranch	3	Spa Hot Springs Motel	3
The Equestrian Center	4	Stage Line Pizza	3
Galt Management	3	Town Pump Food Stores	3

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 9 = 1000+ employees, Class 8 = 500 to 999 employees, Class 7 = 250 to 499 employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249 employees, Class 5 = 50 to 99 employees, Class 4 = 20 to 49 employees, Class 3 = 10 to 19 employees

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW). This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to unemployment insurance, Railroads and government agencies are excluded.

## Agricultural Statistics - Meagher County

Farms	
Farms: (number)	136
Land in farms (acres)	857,215
Average size of farms (acres)	6,303
Farms by size: (number)	
Less than 1,000 acres	54
1,000 acres or more	82
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)	
Less than \$100,000	90
\$100,000 or more	46
Farms by type of organization: (number)	
Family, Individual, Partnership	110
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	26

### Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested

Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)	
Cattle and calves	45,467
Hogs and pigs	(D)
Sheep and lambs	4,961
Horses and ponies	825
Bison	133
Chickens (layers and broilers)	(D)
Crops Harvested (acres)	
Corn for grain	(D)
Corn for silage or greenchop	(D)
Wheat for grain, All	10,082
Winter wheat for grain	6,302
Durum wheat for grain	0
Spring wheat for grain	3,780
Barley for grain	11,850
Oats for grain	1,124
Sunflower seed, All	0
Soybeans for beans	0
Hay, hayslage, grass silage	47,418

### Operator Demographics

Primary occupation: (number)	
Farming	104
Other	32
Place of residence: (number)	
On farm operated	113
Not on farm operated	23
Years on present farm: (number)	
Less than 10 years	30
10 years or more	106
Age group: (number)	
Under 55 years	66
55 years and over	70
Average age of operators: (number)	55.5

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002  
(D) - Not Disclosable